

WSDOT Multimodal Planning Activities

Last Update: August 2016

2016 Work Program Highlights

In the interest of transparency and partnership, this working document was created to share information and the current status of ongoing WSDOT planning activities that are relevant to our MPO/RTPO partners. Each activity contains a description and contact information as well as the extent of the active collaboration activities with MPOs/RTPOs.

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Item #	Activity	Description	Contact	Milestones	<i>For Discussion:</i> Working with MPOs/RTPOs
1	Practical Solutions	<p>Transportation infrastructure investment decisions have wide-ranging implications for the long-term sustainability of community, economy, and environment. The systems built over the last half a century have fueled strong economic growth, but those systems are in urgent need of repair and maintenance. Practical Solutions is a two-part strategy that includes: least cost planning and practical design in which WSDOT is undertaking to enable more flexible and sustainable transportation investment decisions. It encourages this by increasing the focus on project purpose and need throughout all phases of project development: Planning, Program management, Environmental analysis, Design, Construction, Operations. It engages local stakeholders at the earliest stages of defining scope to ensure their input is included at the right stage of project design.</p> <p>For more information: www.wsdot.wa.gov/Projects/PracticalDesign/</p>	Elizabeth Robbins, Multimodal Planning Division, (360) 705-7371, robbins@wsdot.wa.gov	June 2015: Report on implementation of practical solutions at WSDOT.	Region Planning staff will apply practical solutions approaches in their planning work with MPOs and RTPOs.
2	GMA Enhanced Collaboration	<p>Our vision of providing a sustainable and integrated multimodal transportation system requires us to utilize all available capacity on the system and leverage our limited resources. This is only possible by refocusing on working together with communities and other partners. Results WSDOT, our strategy for moving Washington forward, represents that new vision, and a shift in the way we do business. We are:</p> <p>--Implementing ten reforms to improve transportation system performance and strengthen accountability.</p> <p>--Developing a Practical Solutions approach to planning and design; emphasizing the use of low cost, collaborative transportation solutions to achieve desired system performance before considering capacity investments that can be costly and time consuming to construct. (Resources: Moving Washington Forward: Practical Solutions Executive Order, Moving Washington Forward: Practical Solutions Folio, Least Cost Planning Web Page, Practical Design Web Page).</p> <p>WSDOT recognizes city and county plans as the cornerstone of community decision-making—creating the foundations for future subarea plans, regional plan, development regulations, and transportation investment programs. Therefore, we think it is important for WSDOT to participate, listen to and understand these goals and plans, and share WSDOT strategies and policies for implementing a multimodal transportation system.</p>	Elizabeth Robbins, Multimodal Planning Division, (360) 705-7371, robbins@wsdot.wa.gov	<p>January 2015: Contacted 98% of cities and counties in King, Snohomish and Pierce counties to offer assistance and provide resources.</p> <p>All NWR and OR jurisdictions have been contacted.</p> <p>May 2015: Enhanced Collaboration effort expanded to all regions.</p> <p>November 2015: NW Region and Olympic Region have reviewed and commented on high priority local comprehensive plans.</p>	Increased Region Planning staff interaction and coordination with cities, counties, and MPOs and RTPOs.

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3	23 CFR 450.314 Agreements	According to 23 CFR 450.314(a), the MPO, the State(s), and the public transportation operator(s) shall cooperatively determine their mutual responsibilities in carrying out the metropolitan transportation planning process. These responsibilities shall be clearly identified in written agreements among the MPO, the State(s), and the public transportation operator(s) serving the MPA.	Matt Kunic, Multimodal Planning Division, (360) 705-7954, kunicma@wsdot.wa.gov	As of July 2016, eight agreements have been completed and four agreements are in process. The MPOs/transit provider(s) are currently reviewing the remaining agreements.	MPOs have been updated on the status of this process at various meetings (UPWP coordination meetings, on-site visits, and the coordinating committee meeting). MPOs, transit provider(s), and WSDOT collaboratively review the agreements. WSDOT coordinates reviews with the Contracts Office and Assistant Attorney General prior to execution of each agreement.
4	MAP-21 Target Setting	MAP-21 requires that State DOTs and MPOs work together to address the performance measures set forth in MAP-21 through a collaborative process of setting performance targets.	Matt Kunic, Multimodal Planning Division, (360) 705-7954, kunicma@wsdot.wa.gov	<i>Anticipated Schedule:</i> May 2014-December 2017: WSDOT and MPOs continue to meet and discuss targets and rules – this timeline is tentative and subject to change. April 2016 System Performance/Freight/CMAQ NPRM released for comments. March 2016: Final Safety Rule released. September 2016: State sets target for safety; MPOs adopt target within 180 days. July 2016 – June 2017: Other final rules released	Working groups have been formed and informational overview, collaborative framework and technical folios have been provided to MPOs. The working group continues to meet monthly, the framework group meets quarterly, and the technical teams with respect to each rule are meeting as necessary. Upcoming Meetings: Quarterly Target Setting Framework Group: 8/23/16 Target Setting Working Group: Mid-September Technical Teams: Meetings will be held as necessary. Each technical team lead will arrange the meeting dates/times.
5	Community Engagement Plan	In June 2015 WSDOT adopted a new Community Engagement Plan to strengthen partnerships to increase credibility, drive priorities and inform decision making. The new Community Engagement Plan is available at: www.wsdot.wa.gov/planning/ . Future updates will be discussed at WSDOT's Community Engagement Team (CET) meetings.	Bill Bennion, Multimodal Planning Division, (360) 705-7968, benniob@wsdot.wa.gov	June 30, 2015: Plan posted online and submitted to FHWA & FTA December 31, 2015: Update to FHWA & FTA November 2016: Document updated to include a stratified approach to engagement.	The plan provides guidance for WSDOT's engagement with MPOs/RTPOs, the public, stakeholders and communities.
6	Washington Transportation Plan: Statewide Long Range Transportation Plan 2038 (Phase 2)	Development of a statewide multimodal plan is being conducted in two phases. The first phase was an update to the Washington Transportation Plan (WTP) 2030. The second phase is an update to the 2007-2026 WTP. In January 2015 the Transportation Commission adopted the WTP 2035 (Phase 1) to meet the state requirements for a statewide transportation policy plan. WSDOT is developing Phase 2 to meet the state requirements for a statewide multimodal transportation plan and the federal requirements for a long-range	Richard Warren, Multimodal Planning Division, (206) 464-1283, warrenr@wsdot.wa.gov	Monthly: Coordination meetings with Transportation Commission staff and FHWA and FTA; participate on WSDOT modal plan update processes, and WSDOT’s MAP-21 Target Setting discussions; presentations to the Transportation Commission. Spring 2015: Reconvened Phase 1 Steering Committee; developed project web page.	Phase 2 will involve coordination and consultation with MPOs, RTPOs, transit agencies, tribes, and local jurisdictions, FHWA, FTA, and the Transportation Commission. Areas of interest include collection of data and information from studies, plans, programs, and analyses. Particular focus will be on performance measures.

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		statewide transportation plan. Phase 1 sets the policy context and Phase 2 recommends implementation strategies within this context. Additionally, WSDOT must follow specific requirements for consultation and coordination with federal, state, tribal, MPOs/RTPOs, and local governments, and involving the community.		Summer 2015: Conducted a Voice of Washington State Survey with the Transportation Commission; finalized one-page fact sheet; developed scope of work and communications and community outreach plan. Winter 2016: Obtained Steering Committee approval of scope of work and community outreach plan. Developed Tech Memo #1: Policy, Vision, and Goals; and Tech Memo #2: Performance Measures. Updated WSDOT Process for Consulting with Non-Metropolitan Local Officials, Tribes, and Federal Land Management Agencies; conduct public outreach. Spring 2016-Spring 2017: Gather info; conduct public outreach; continue coordination with internal/external parties; develop draft and final reports. Re-convene Phase 1 Advisory Group. December 2017: Deliver final report to WSDOT Secretary.	
7	Highway System Plan	<p>This HSP update is focused on using consistent criteria for the identification of current and future needs (needs are defined as locations or assets performing below predefined, Executive-approved performance goals), and developing cost-effective solutions and strategies to address those needs through a programmatic and integrated multimodal corridor approach - called the Corridor Sketch.</p> <p>A corridor sketch is a new way for WSDOT to work jointly with partners to capture and document consistent baseline information about a corridor that informs future investment decisions. The corridor sketch will contain data that describes the characteristics of each corridor, common understanding of its current and future functions, performance targets and gaps, and cost-effective strategies for future consideration. A corridor sketch is not a substitute for detailed planning and analysis, nor is it a list of investments or projects.</p>	Faris Al-Memar, Multimodal Planning Division, (360) 705-7956, almemaf@wsdot.wa.gov	Corridor Sketch Initiative Phase 1 – Summer 2015 through Spring 2016 Corridor Sketch Initiative Phase 2 – Summer 2016 through Fall 2017 Final HSP – Fall 2017	The HSP update will be developed through a coordinated and collaborative planning process led by the Systems Analysis and Planning group of the Multimodal Planning Division of WSDOT. This group will work with various specialty groups statewide including but not limited to Public Transportation, Traffic, Environmental Services, Planning, Program Management, Tribal governments, Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) and Regional Transportation Planning Organizations (RTPOs). WSDOT Regional Planning Offices will work with partners (including MPO/RTPOs) on development of the Corridor Sketches.

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8	Public Transportation Plan	The State of Washington has a strong interest in a coordinated, comprehensive and integrated public transportation system as a vital piece of Washington state’s transportation system and infrastructure. As Washington’s population grows, the state seeks to advance policy goals by developing more efficient and environmentally sustainable methods, while striving to remain economically competitive. The state’s interest in delivering a viable public transportation system to its citizens will be increasingly pivotal to achieving future state goals, providing the capacity, mobility and access necessary for the effective movement of people and goods essential to a high quality of life for all Washington state citizens.	Stan Suchan, Public Transportation Division, (206) 464-1192, suchans@wsdot.wa.gov	The WSDOT Public Transportation Plan was completed in June 2016.	The WSDOT Public Transportation Plan has been published and is available online at: http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/NR/rdonlyres/EF00F16E-472D-43FE-AFF6-935DF809274B/0/WashingtonStatePublicTransportationPlan_Section50871816o_ptimized.pdf
9	Aviation System Plan	The Aviation System Plan will study the performance and interaction of the entire aviation system to understand the interrelationship of the member airports. The study will examine emerging aviation issues, inventory of the current system, identification of air transportation needs, and forecast of system demand, and provide recommendations of system changes, funding strategies and airport development.	Robert Hodgman, Aviation Division, (360) 596-8910, hodgmar@wsdot.wa.gov	April 2, 2015: Notice to Proceed - First Advisory Committee meeting held July 9th at Boeing Field. The next WASP meeting is anticipated in October 2016. Phase II of the study has begun with AGIS data collection at four airports: Auburn Municipal, Harvey Field-Snohomish, Tacoma Narrows-Tacoma, and Bremerton Regional.	The Aviation Division welcomes input and participation from MPOs/RTPOs, regions and modal divisions. The study will seek support from an advisory committee, industry/aviation stakeholders and modal planners. The next WASP meeting is anticipated in October 2016 and will address preliminary policy topics. Emerging issues working papers and additional information about the project is available at: http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/aviation/Planning/wasp.htm
10	Statewide Travel Demand Model	A statewide multimodal travel demand model is an analytical tool that will help us better understand where people live and how they travel around the state. This multimodal forecasting model will allow us to better understand the statewide transportation system and how future projects and land use changes may affect it.	Natarajan Janarthanan, Multimodal Planning Division, (206) 464-1274, janartn@wsdot.wa.gov	Spring 2015: Development of a blueprint for a statewide multimodal travel demand model was completed on June 30, 2015.	The blueprint was completed by June 30, 2015. Following the completion of the blueprint, a stakeholder committee was formed with eight members representing MPOs/RTPOs/WSDOT regions. This committee was charged to come up with recommendations for travel demand model option(s) for the statewide model to submit to the Secretary and to discuss the legislative proviso. The stakeholder committee met three times: July 21 st , September 15 th and October 29 th . They completed their discussion on both tasks. Based on their input, MPD staffs wrote the recommended statewide travel demand model option and a response for the legislative proviso. The final document on response to legislative proviso was sent to the Secretary’s office by the MPD director by early December 2015. After the secretary’s office reviewed and approved, Proviso response on 2ESHB 1299, section 218 was submitted on December 17, 2015 to the legislative committee. The stakeholder recommended statewide travel demand model option was sent to the Secretary’s office in the first week of January 2016.

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11	Olympic Region Planning Studies	1) SR 161/SR 512 Interchange Study 2) SR 162 Sumner to Orting Corridor Study 3) SR 160 Long Lake Rd SE 4) SR 16 Congestion Study 5) SR 3/SR 16 Gorst Planning Study	Dennis Engel, WSDOT Olympic Region, (360) 357-2651, engeld@wsdot.wa.gov	1) Completion: Fall 2016 2) Completion: Summer 2017 3) Completion Summer 2017 4) Completion: Fall 2017 5) Completion: December 2016	Each region will engage their respective MPO/RTPO; some are conducting studies in partnership.
12	Eastern Region Planning Studies	US 2 Corridor Analysis Study	Char Kay, WSDOT Eastern Region, (509) 324-6195, kayc@wsdot.wa.gov	The US 2 Corridor Analysis Study has been finalized.	Each region will engage their respective MPO/RTPO; some are conducting studies in partnership.
13	South Central Region Planning Studies	US 395 – I-82 to I-182 Corridor Planning Study	Paul Gonseth, WSDOT South Central Region, (509) 577-1630, gonsetp@wsdot.wa.gov	US 395 study has been submitted to HQ and local partners for review and comment. Study has been shelved with review comments.	Each region will engage their respective MPO/RTPO; some are conducting studies in partnership.
14	Northwest Region/Mount Baker Area Planning Studies	1) I-5/Bakerview to Grandview Sub-Regional Transportation Analysis 2)) US 2 Skykomish Planning Study	Todd Carlson, WSDOT Northwest Region/MBA, (360) 757-5980, carlsot@wsdot.wa.gov	Completed base year analysis. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Completed collision analysis.• Completed environmental scans.• Completed geometric review.• Developed an alternative travel demand forecasting methodology.• Frequent coordination with local agency staff, and one Steering Committee meeting with elected officials.• The project provided data used for three other corridor projects in Whatcom County.• The project provided information useful for WSDOT’s and WCOG’s reviews of comprehensive plans.• The project was closed prior to completion of the future forecast analysis and development of alternatives.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The project was conducted jointly by WCOG and WSDOT with ongoing involvement by local agency staff. Elected officials from the Transportation Policy Board served as an Exec. Steering Committee.• Work elements relied on land use and travel demand model information for the local and state transportation system that were being updated concurrent with the project. Project findings and recommendations were to provide timely input into the development of 2016 comprehensive plan updates. Delays in the development of Whatcom County’s preferred land use alternative, and challenges with WCOG’s travel demand model negatively impacted the project’s schedule and budget. <p>This work will be the basis for the Corridor Sketch Initiative’s strategies for the corridors within the study boundaries.</p>
15	Bicycle / Pedestrian Counting Pilot Project	Part A - Electronic Counter Pilot will purchase and install permanent pedestrian and bicycle counting equipment to provide a more accurate picture of walking and biking in Washington. PSRC conducted site planning and selection for count locations within the Puget Sound	Marci Carte, WSDOT Multimodal Planning Division, Transportation Data & GIS Office, (360)	Seven Bicycle/Pedestrian counters have been purchased. Six of these have been installed with the remaining three to be installed summer 2015.	PSRC provided a list of possible counter locations for the Puget Sound Area. Thurston Regional Planning Council was involved with determining the Thurston County installation locations.

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		Region in coordination with local agencies, WSDOT, Washington Bikes, Cascade Bicycle Club and Feet First. Part B - Extend Existing Manual Count Program will extend the existing contract with Cascade Bicycle Club to collect manual count data at approximately 250 locations in approximately 50 cities across the state. Part C - Develop Web Map portal that will showcase Bike and Pedestrian Count data through custom map service.	596-8922, cartem@wsdot.wa.gov Dave Bushnell, Multimodal Planning Division, Transportation Data & GIS Office, (360) 570-2416, bushned@wsdot.wa.gov	The Cascade Bicycle Club contract has been renewed to collect manual count data in Fall 2015 and 2016. The first release of Bike/Ped map application that displays manual count location data and allows user to download information will be available to the public in August 2015. The August release of the application will signal the completion of this portion of the project. *Project is complete.	
16	Regional Coordination	The Northwest Region and Olympic Region Planning Offices will serve as WSDOT leads for update of the PSRC's 2040 plan. This will include participation in PSRC committees, review of the draft plan, and coordination of WSDOT's input to PSRC. The emphasis will be on better aligning the PSRC 2040 plan with WSDOT plans and ensuring consistency of plan assumptions and key inputs.	Dennis Engel, WSDOT Olympic Region, (360) 357-2651, engeld@wsdot.wa.gov Charles Prestrud, NW Region/SnoKing Planning, (206) 440- 4752, prestrc@wsdot.wa.gov	Winter 2015 - Identify key issues Spring 2015 - Set up internal work groups (this didn't happen, however MMPD, NW Region and Tolling are collaborating on a work plan to address key issues). Fall 2016 – Coordinate with PSRC on timeline and key issues. Conduct analysis with other WSDOT offices, obtain executive direction. Late 2016 - Provide input on scope, provide PSRC a project list. 2017 - Review draft plan.	NWR/OR planning staff will participate in PSRC committees, review draft materials, and provide input. As the scope of the 2040 update is better defined and PSRC's approach to key issues becomes clearer, WSDOT will need to develop a strategy for working with local jurisdictions and TPB members.
17	Ferries Long Range Transportation Plan	Work will begin in the spring of 2017 on an update to WSF's long range plan. The plan, last updated in 2009, will identify WSF service and capital needs out to the year 2040.	Ray Deardorf, WSDOT Ferries, (206) 515-3491, deardorf@wsdot.wa.gov	Spring 2017 – initial visioning workshops, begin Policy and Technical Committees. December 2017 – Draft Plan for review Spring 2018 – Final Plan completion	Participation by regional partners in vision workshops, Policy and Technical committees plus ongoing outreach at RTPO and PSRC policy boards.

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